

General Grand Entry Rules and Guidelines*

*Changes are indicated in yellow (or gray)

- Only individuals who are members of an accepted riding club, rodeo contestants, entered in a FWSSR horse or mule show or specifically invited by the management of the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo will be considered for inclusion in the Grand Entry.
- Appropriate **western attire** is required which is defined as attire which includes **pants, such as jeans or trousers, long-sleeve shirt with collar, western hat or helmet and western boots**. No ball caps, sweatshirts, hoodies, shirts with graphics unrelated to the stock show or club, or other attire deemed as inappropriate such as mid-drift or tank tops, will be allowed in the arena. **No costumes, glitter, streamers, lights, etc., are allowed except in the case of legitimate club uniforms, cultural regalia or traditional professional rodeo attire. No weapons, including those used in horse show competitions, will be permitted.**
- **All Grand Entry Participants must be at least 16 years of age or older to ride. Riding Club Sweethearts or Queens 15 and under may be introduced from the Fan Zone as a group at one performance only.**
- All Grand Entry Participants must be in absolute control of horses at all times. Unruly horses or out of control riders may be removed by Grand Entry marshal or other rodeo personnel at any time. If excused at the time of Grand Entry, horse and rider must return to the warmup arena and wait for escort back to the parking lot. The Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show dba Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo reserves the right to deny entry or participation for any reason at any **time**.
- Humane treatment of animals must be exercised at all times. Any evidence of inhumane treatment will be cause for expulsion.
- **In the interest of animal welfare and recognizing the public forum of the grand entry, the FWSSR is providing the following weight guidelines as prescribed by the Certified Horsemanship Association. A generally accepted weight guideline is 20% of the horse's body weight, i.e., a 1,000 lb horse can carry a 200 lb rider. A horse may be able to carry more weight with a balanced and experienced rider.**
- An officer of the participating Grand Entry Riding Clubs must sign and submit by mail, in person or preferably, electronically, a Riding Club Application certifying that the rules and waivers have been read and distributed to all members. The listed officer will be the sole contact person for the riding club and all waivers should be included with the application. Waivers may be signed with a witness or submitted via Adobe Acrobat with a verified signature. Those without waivers must sign the provided form prior to entering Dickies Arena. Members of riding clubs already approved for participation and with signed waivers may ride as individuals. **Best Practice: Lower costs and hold a group veterinary health certification and waiver signing event. Submit health papers in advance to expedite entry on the grounds.**
- Any Grand Entry Participant under the age of 18 must have a parent or legal guardian co-sign the Individual Waiver.
- Scheduling of clubs for the Grand Entry will be on a first-come, first-served basis and is limited by the trailer capacity of the Grand Entry parking lot. Clubs are encouraged to "double up" in order to allow more riders to participate.
- Free parking will be provided to Grand Entry participants in the Grand Entry parking lot only and only on the times and dates of the performance at which the club/individual is riding.
- Wristbands providing grounds admission for that day performance will be issued to each rider and horse at the entrance to the Grand Entry parking lot. Wristbands must be prominently displayed at all times on the rider's wrist and horse's saddle D ring. If participating as a horse show entry, riders must check in at the Horse Show office in the Burnett Building no later

than one hour prior to their ride to receive a wrist band. All riders will be escorted to Dickies Arena by Fort Worth Mounted Police from the location noted on the provided Grand Entry map. Absolutely no entry to Dickies Arena is permitted without police escort or the provided credentials. **No rider may be accompanied by a person on foot. Family members and guests may view the warm up arena from Simmons Bank Plaza or purchase a rodeo ticket.** Any person gaining access without credentials will be immediately escorted from the Arena and may be denied future participation.

- All Grand Entry Participants are required to comply with dress code requirements as outlined in each individual waiver. Individuals who fail to comply will be excused from the Grand Entry prior to entry. No other animals besides HORSES and MULES are allowed in the Grand Entry. Mules must be entered in the horse show to qualify for participation.
- NO CELL PHONES OR CAMERAS PERMITTED IN ARENA and may be confiscated. Any violation will result in expulsion.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL HORSES AT THE FWSSR – THIS IS THE LAW

ALL RIDING CLUB MEMBERS MUST BE PROVIDED THIS INFORMATION. Each Grand Entry Participant's horse must comply with the prevailing [Texas Animal Health Commission Regulations](#) as they pertain to equine. Riders without the properly completed and dated Coggins test and Certificate of Health **will be denied participation.**

All equine must be accompanied by a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection issued within **THIRTY (30)** days at the time of arrival issued by a licensed veterinarian. Equine originating in the State of Texas must show proof of a negative Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA) test, also known as a "Coggins" test, within the past (twelve) 12 months. **Test date, accession number and name of laboratory must be listed on the Certificate of Veterinary Inspection.** Equine originating out-of-state must show proof of a negative equine infectious anemia (EIA) test, also known as a Coggins test, within the past (twelve) 12 months. A valid equine interstate passport or equine identification card and a completed VS Form 10-11 showing negative results to an official EIA test within the previous six (6) months will also be accepted. For the protection of exhibitors and horses, donkeys and mules, the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show will require that ALL equine entering the show grounds comply with these regulations. Any animal that develops a communicable disease must be removed from the show grounds. **DOCUMENTS MUST BE PRESENTED UPON ARRIVAL AT THE GRAND ENTRY LOT. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Form samples are available for download here.

RELEASE AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Each exhibitor, participant or other individual or entity participating in any aspect of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, including without limitation, livestock and animal entrants, parade, and grand entry participants (collectively, "Exposition and Livestock Show Participants") including any of their heirs, dependents, assigns, agents or representatives in any capacity, hereby waives all rights and claims for damages, and do hereby agree to release, hold harmless and unconditionally indemnify the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, sponsors and co-producers of any Exposition and Livestock Show events, and any officials or employees, thereof, from and against all liability, cost, expenses, claims and damages even if caused by the alleged negligence or gross negligence of the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show which the Exposition and Livestock Show Participant, or the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show may at any time suffer or sustain or become liable for by reason of any accidents, damages, injuries or incidents either to the person or property, or both, or the Exposition and Livestock Show Participant, or of any other parties, in any manner arising from such Participant's participation in any Exposition and Livestock Show event or at any Exposition and Livestock Show premises which is in any way connected with the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, its officers, directors, members, sponsors, agents or employees. Exposition and Livestock Show Participant also recognizes that it will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage to, or occasioned by, arising from, any horse or other livestock used by the Participant or present at the Southwestern Exposition and Livestock Show, including the preparation, duration and disbanding of said Show and any parts thereof. Each Exposition and Livestock Show Participant further agrees to execute such releases or other writings or other documents which evidence Participant's acknowledgment and understanding of the foregoing release and indemnity, provided, however, the provisions hereof shall prevail in the event that a conflict or other inconsistency is discovered regarding the contents of this provision, and any release executed by a Participant. Follow this link for General Rules and Regulations.

**** RIDING CLUB RECOGNITION ****

In order to recognize the efforts of riding clubs to participate in the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo Grand Entry, awards will be provided for the following:

- Best Dressed
- Best Horsemanship
- Best Overall Club – will be determined by the placing of the clubs for Best Dressed and Best Horsemanship, combined with points earned by the number of performances in which the club riders

- Points will be earned though 5th place for both Best Dressed and Best Horsemanship on the following scale;
1st – 5pts 2nd – 4pts 3rd – 3pts 4th – 2pts 5th – 1pt

- Clubs will receive 10 points for each performance in which it appears.
- Clubs will be judged by Stock Show officials and points will be tabulated by members of the Grand Entry Marshal team. The club winning Best Overall will not receive recognition in any other category won.
- Winning clubs will be recognized with an appropriate award during the Grand Entry of the Finals performance of the Fort Worth Stock Show PRORODEO Tournament. A press release will be issued to Fort Worth Stock Show media and a photograph of the Best Overall riding club will appear in the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo Official Newsletter, *Whoa!*, and in the following year's *FWSSR Rodeo Souvenir Annual*.
- Rulings of Stock Show judges are final and no grievances will be recognized.